29: Jenness E-5 (1914-1916) 1959
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support a layer of turf fifteen or eighteen inches thick around the walls and two or three inches thick on the roof. Once the snow drifts over such a dwelling a room large enough to shelter several men can be made unbearably hot with a small wood-burning stove, even though there are two or three windows in the sides and a ventilator in the ceiling.

Our plans called for a one-roomed hut eighteen by twelve feet, oriented east and west, with a large three-paned window on the south face and a smaller two-paned window on the north. We had brought from [13] Alaska 1,000 feet of roughly dressed lumber; for although the coast east and west of the delta of the Mackenzie River is strewn with driftwood for three or four hundred miles, hardly a single log can be found around Coronation Gulf, none of its rivers reaching back to the heavy forests. Some of us sorted out the lumber and dug post-holes; others cut squares of turf from a neighbouring meadow and transported them to the house-site on a dog-sled. We completed the framework in three days. Each man then undertook to construct one section of the outer wall of turf. Chipman laboured incessantly, as befitted the leader, and the wall in his section mounted rapidly toward the eave; but it suddenly collapsed when it reached two-thirds of its height, compelling him to begin over again from a wider base. None of us were carpenters by trade, and we worked to a large extent indepen-